

Docket JP920000176US1

Appl. No.: 09/626,945

Filed: 07/27/2000

IN THE CLAIMS

Please enter amendments as indicated below:

1. (currently amended) A computing system comprising a central processing unit, associated memory, input/output devices and containing an e-mail system, characterized in that it includes a remote control device comprising :
- means to convert speech to text;
 - means to transmit ~~the said the~~ text to the ~~said the~~ e-mail system;
 - means to receive text from ~~the said the~~ e-mail system;
 - means to convert the received text into speech; and
 - means to select and access the received e-mail in ~~the said the~~ e-mail system.
2. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said remote control device (RCD) further includes a means to display the received email messages.
3. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~the said the~~ remote control device is customized by the user to speak aloud the sender, date, subject, e-mail content and attachment ~~(if required)~~ for incoming mail.
4. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~the said the~~ remote control device includes means for selecting email message or folder.
5. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~the said the~~ remote control device includes means for speaking aloud the summary of an e-mail folder.
6. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~the said the~~ remote control device is linked to ~~the said the~~ computer through infra-red or ultrasonic or radio frequency waves.
7. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~the said the~~ e-mail system provides a audio announcement whenever new messages are received.

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8. (currently amended) A computing system ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ comprising a central processing unit, associated memory, input/output devices, an e-mail system and a remote control device, wherein ~~the said the~~ remote control device ~~comprises~~ comprising:

- a microphone connected to an ~~the~~ input of a ~~a~~ microphone amplifier,
- an ~~the~~ output of said microphone ~~is connected to~~ an ~~the~~ input of an analog to digital converter (ADC),
- an ~~the~~ output of ~~the said the~~ ADC is connected to the one input of a processor means,
- a ~~the~~ second input of said processor ~~is connected to~~ a ROM (Read Only Memory) containing text-to-speech, conversion software and speech-to text-conversion software,
- a first input-output of said processor means ~~is connected to~~ Random Access Memory (RAM) which contains the speech-to-text data, text-to-speech-data, and command and status data,
- one output of said processor means ~~is connected to~~ a transmitter for transmitting ~~the said the~~ data in RAM to ~~the a remote computing system containing an e-mail system~~,
- another input of ~~the said the~~ processor means ~~is connected to~~ a receiver which receives the data from the ~~remote computing system containing e-mail system~~,
- another input/output of the processor means ~~is connected to~~ a control panel containing switches and display elements, and
- another output of ~~the said the~~ processor means ~~is connected to~~ a digital to analogue convertor (DAC) which converts the data received from after the text-to-speech conversion software into an analogue electrical signal, the analogue electrical signal being fed and feeds to an ~~the~~ input of an audio amplifier which drives a loud speaker to generate audible sound.

9. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 8 wherein ~~the said the~~ processor means is a digital signal processor.

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10. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 8 wherein ~~the said the~~ processor means is a micro controller.
11. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 8 wherein ~~the said the~~ processor means is an ASIC.
- A/ 12. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein ~~the said the~~ ASIC includes the entire circuit except the microphone, speaker, computer containing e-mail system and control panel.
13. (currently amended) A computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein ~~the said the~~ ASIC contains ROM, RAM, transmitter and receiver.

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14. (currently amended) A computer programme product residing on computer storage media, ~~the computer programme product comprising: containing computer readable devices embodied therein for causing a computer e-mail system to receive instructions and e-mail content from a remote control device and to send status and e-mail content to the said device.~~

instructions for sending e-mail by:

- H*
- receiving speech input by a remote control device from a user,
 - converting the speech input by the remote control device into an analog electrical signal,
 - amplifying the electrical signal and converting the electrical signal to digital form by the remote control device,
 - converting the digitized signal to text by the remote control device, and
 - transmitting the text by the remote control device to the computing system's e-mail system.

instructions for receiving e-mail by:

- transmission of data to the remote control device,
- receiving data from the computing system's e-mail system by the remote control device,
- converting said received data from text to digitized speech by the remote control device,
- converting the digitized speech to analog form by the remote control device, and
- amplifying the analog signal and converting the analog signal to speech by the remote control device for the user.

15. ~~(canceled)~~

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16. (currently amended) In a computing system ~~comprising consisting of~~ a central processing unit, associated memory, input/output devices and ~~containing an~~ e-mail system, a method for remotely controlling ~~the said the~~ e-mail system using a remote control device, ~~an audio support the method comprising the steps of:~~

sending e-mail by:

- receiving the speech input by the remote control device from ~~a the~~ user,
- converting the speech input by the remote control device into an the analog electrical signal,
- amplifying ~~the said the~~ electrical signal and converting the electrical signal to digital form by the remote control device,
- converting ~~the said the~~ digitized signal to text by the remote control device,
- transmitting ~~the said the~~ text by the remote control device to the computing system's or containing e-mail system, and
- receiving the transmitted text in the computing system's or containing e-mail system,
- ~~transferring the said text to the said e-mail system,~~

and

receiving e-mail by:

- transmission of data from the computing system's or containing e-mail system to the remote control device,
- receiving transmitted data ~~data~~ at the remote control device,
- converting said received data from text to digitized speech by the remote control device,
- converting ~~the said the~~ digitized speech to analog form by the remote control device, and
- amplifying ~~the said the~~ analog signal and converting the analog signal to speech by the remote control device for the user.

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17. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the email is selected through speech or through a control panel.

18. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the received mail message is displayed on ~~the said~~ the remote control device ~~(RCD)~~.
